

(a) whether there has been mass exodus of officers from the Navy;

(b) if so, the number of persons who left the naval service from technical and non-technical sides during 1991-92;

(c) whether the Government have made any study into the causes of such exodus;

(d) if so, the result thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to check it; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (e). Naval officers are permitted to seek premature retirement on the following grounds:—

- (i) Supersession
- (ii) Compassionate reasons
- (iii) Permanent Low Medical Category
- (iv) Absorption in the Public Sector/ Re-settlement in civil life within a period of 2 years from the date of normal retirement.

All cases of premature retirement are approved by the Govt on the recommendations of the Chief of Naval Staff subjects to their fulfilling the laid down guidelines/criteria and after keeping the Navy's manpower requirements in mind.

The number of Technical and non-Technical officers upto the rank of Captain/Commodore who took premature retirement during the year 1991-92 is as follows:—

Technical Branches — 33

Non-Technical Branches — 64

These figures are lower than the corresponding figures for the previous financial year (1990-91).

Increase in Road Tax in Delhi

6980. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the road tax in Delhi has been raised; and

(b) if so, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The Delhi Administration have revised road tax in Delhi w.e.f. 1.4.1992. The revision has been necessitated due to increase in the cost of maintenance of roads and collection charges.

Export of Silk and Silk Garments

6981. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRI-YAPPA:
SHR K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of silk and silk garments exported during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether there is a great demand for Indian Silk garments in the international market;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of silk and silk garments?